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THE MONTHLY GULL BULLETIN

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY INC.

Volume 40 Berkeley, California, April, 1958 Number 4

HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR TO BENEFIT SANCTUARY FUND

The House and Garden Tour will be conducted on May 16 and 17 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The following places are being graciously opened to our membership and friends.

Home of Mrs. and Mrs. Oliver de Silva, Chelsea Drive, Oakland—Here is an immense sunken garden with lawns on different levels. Paths wind their way through botanical wonders, to the murmur of a little creek for part of the way. Elsewhere fountains play. Paradise is truly reflected here.

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Davis, Masonic Drive, Oakland—This is a perfect English cottage, friendly and charming to the last detail, with an enchanting bay view. Comfortable seats permit one to pause and admire the amphitheater garden filled to capacity with blooms of every description.

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Land, Indian Road, Piedmont—Here is an intricate series of landscapes with blue slated terraces. Designed by Howard Gilkey it includes a magnificent waterfall, a half moon gate, and a delihgtful guest house which will be opened for us. The part of the main house to be visited is full of decorative surprises.

Home of Dr. and Mrs. C. V. Covell, Piedmont—A famous rosarian lives here. The garden displays at its height, 450 blooming rose plants. It contains the best imports from England for the past five years, also, five of the new strain of Kordesii climbers, everblooming, disease resistant. Of additional interest is a display in the breakfast room, of a collection of Early American amber glass.

Home of Dr. and Mrs. Eric T. Reynolds, Piedmont—Next to the Covells and connecting by garden gates is a setting for the attraction of birds for study and photography. The house contains an exhibition of original paintings by the great bird artist, Louis Agassiz Fuertes. This is a first showing in the East Bay.

A beautiful experience is assured all who will participate in this outstanding tour. In addition, it should bring great satisfaction to all who cannot attend, to make a donation to this fund for the establishment of an urgently needed sanctuary.

Envelopes enclosed with this issue are for the purpose of obtaining tickets or making a donation. The committee will appreciate a prompt response. Tickets are on sale *now.*

SUZANNE JOHNSON—*Chairman House & Garden Tour*

SPONSORS FOR THE HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR TO DATE:—Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Bullis, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Connick, Dr. Robert K. Cutter, Mr. and Mrs. Howard F. Fletcher, Dr. and Mrs. H. S. Leopold, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Lipman, Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Miller, Fleet Admiral and Mrs. Chester W. Nimitz, Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn W. Oatman, Dr. and Mrs. Bean Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Frank A Scott, *Berkeley;* Dr. and Mrs. Albert Boles, Mrs. George C. Browne, Judge Homer Buckley, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Davie, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn E. Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. James B. Linford, *Oakland;* Mrs. Edson Adams, Miss Louise Ballard, Miss Helen Catlin, Mrs. William Cavalier, Mrs. R. C. Force, Sr., Mrs. Herbert E. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Moore, Mr. and Mrs. E. Reinhardt, Dr. and Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds, Miss Helen C. Wright, *Piedmont;* Dr. and Mrs. Budd Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Lee S. Cherney, *San Francisco;* Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kent, *Kentfield;* Mr. and Mrs. Gerald H. Gray, *Walnut Creek;* Dr. and Mrs. H. Carpenter, *Orinda.*

FEBRUARY TRIP TO RITCHIE RANCH

About fifty hardy souls of the Golden Gate Audubon Society met at Thornton on February 9th. Several members of the Sacramento Audubon group joined us, led by Ed Picket. The day was overcast and it rained lightly most of the time.

Highlights of the trip were one hundred American Egrets in one field; a White-tailed Kite; also, about one hundred White-fronted Geese in a field near Terminus. There were very few Sandhill Cranes; not more than one dozen at a time were seen. Gulls were numerous in places. The following 54 species were observed: Pied-billed Grebe, (100) American Egret, Snowy Egret, American Bittern, Canada Goose, (100) White-fronted Goose, Pintail, Ruddy Duck, White-tailed Kite, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sandhill Crane, Florida Gallinule, American Coot, Killdeer, Least Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, American Avocet, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shafted Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Horned Lark, Scrub Jay, American Crow, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, American Robin, Western Bluebird, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Audubon's Warbler, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, "Bicolored" Blackbird noted—however, is subsp. of Red-winged Blackbird, Tricolored Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Brown Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

— PHIL SMITH, *Leader and Historian*

FIELD NOTES: A tropical kingbird has chosen to winter in San Francisco. On February 16 my wife and I had the good fortune to see him up by Lake Merced, right off Skyline Blvd., at the entrance to Harding Park Golf Course. The bird resembles the Western Kingbird superficially but the tail is quite deeply forked, dusky brown without a hint of black and with no white edgings. The latest A.O.U. checklist lists the West Mexican Kingbird as a sub-species of the tropical kingbird usual in California. — A female King Eider has been seen all winter just west of Fisherman's Wharf. — *Carlyle Sather,* San Francisco.

FEBRUARY TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO ZOO AND LAKE MERCED

Twenty-eight members and guests of the Golden Gate Audubon Society enjoyed the finest day of the week while studying the bird life at Fleishhacker Zoo and Lake Merced on Saturday, February 22nd. The highlight of the day was seeing an unidentified Kingbird at Lake Merced. The credit goes to Carlyle Sather who observed it a week before and also that morning, but when the group went there that afternoon it was not to be seen anywhere. Another highlight was two Red-necked Grebes down on the lake. The occurrance is unusual because they are a salt water bird and rarely seen on fresh water lakes.

The following 48 species and estimated 1648 individuals were seen in both locales: 2 Red-necked Grebe, 10 Horned Grebe, 50 plus Eared Grebe, 12 Western Grebe, 100 minus Pied-billed Grebe, 4 Double-crested Cormorant, 2 Green Heron, 34 plus Mallard, 40 plus American Widgeon, 2 Lesser Scaup, 200 minus Ruddy Duck, 1 Red-tailed Hawk, 1 Sparrow Hawk, 12 California Quail, 250 American Coot, 1 Killdeer, many Glaucous-winged Gull, many Western Gull, 2 Herring Gull, many California Gull, 40 Ring-billed Gull, 4 Anna's Hummingbird, 15 Allen's Hummingbird, 2 Belted Kingfisher, 5 Red-shafted Flicker, 2 Black Phoebe, 14 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 6 Long-billed Marsh Wren, many American Robin, 4 Varied Thrush, 2 Hermit Thrush, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3 Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1 Water Pipit, 6 Cedar Waxwing, 10 Myrtle Warbler, 150 minus Audubon's Warbler, 2 Yellow-throat, many House Sparrow, many Brewer's Blackbird, many House Finch, 25 plus Pine Siskin, 12 plus Oregon Junco, many White-crowned Sparrow, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 4 Fox Sparrow, 20 Song Sparrow and 1 unidentified Kingbird.

— CHAS. HINES, *Leader and Historian*

CONSERVATION

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors is at present considering two proposals regarding billboards: (1) a proposal to prohibit all billboards along "scenic highways," defined to include those commanding skyline views of the city and sponsored by Mr. John Ferdon; (2) a proposal restricting billboards only on "landscaped freeways," sponsored by the billboard interests. Since few, if any, landscaped freeways are being planned, the second proposal would permit billboards along most of the scenic skyways entering the city. The California Roadside Council urges immediate support of the Ferdon proposal. Address letters to City Planning Commission, 100 Larkin Street, S.F., Roger Lapham, Jr., Chairman, and to the Supervisor's Committee on Public Buildings, Lands and City Planning, City Hall, Mrs. Clarissa McMahon, Chairman. On this same issue of billboards, letters of support and commendation should go to Sen. Richard L. Neuberger, Wash., D. C., for initiating S. 963 which would put controls on billboards along Federal interstate highway systems.

GLADYS SMITH, *Chairman*

SCREEN TOURS:—Applications for tickets for the 1958-1959 Audubon Screen Tours are now being received by Mrs. David Snyder, Chairman, P. O. Box 103, Berkeley, California. The series consists of five illustrated lectures at the Berkeley Little Theatre. Cost for a season ticket is $3.50. Make checks payable to the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Announcement: Dr. Telford Work slated tospeak April 15th will be replaced by Mr. Alber Wool, who will present his fine film of California's Coast Range, *Ranch & Range*. In addition to being a great naturalist, Dr. Work is one of the world's foremost epidemiologists and a severe epidemic in India necessitates his remaining there.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND CASH BALANCES

January 1, 1957 through December 31, 1957

CASH RECEIPTS:	
Membership dues — branch	$1,246.92
Membership dues — local	35.50
Gull subscription income	32.50
Interest income	94.76
Miscellaneous income	.47
Screen tours income — 1957/1958 season	2,277.80
Total cash receipts	$3,687.95
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:	
*Anniversary dinner	$ 6.71
Bird count fees	11.00
Camp scholarships	294.00
Donations	46.00
Education committee expense	20.84
Field trips expense	13.54
Gull expense — printing	809.65
Gull expense — mailing	330.72
**Insurance	529.88
Meeting expense	30.82
Miscellaneous expense	11.25
Postage	23.00
Screen tours expense — 1956/1957 season	977.75
Screen tours expense — 1957/1958 season	477.88
Social committee expense	14.83
Stationery and supplies	90.29
Travel and conventions	200.00
Membership directory	27.76
Total cash disbursements	$3,915.92
EXCESS OF CASH DISBUREMENTS OVER CASH RECEIPTS	$ (227.97)
CASH BALANCE AT JANUARY 1, 1957	4,832.15
REDEMPTION OF UNITED STATES SAVINGS BOND	500.00
GARDEN PARTY PROCEEDS RESERVED FOR CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS	269.89
CASH BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 1957	$5,374.07
Commercial account	$2,126.99
Savings account	3,247.08
	$5,374.07

* Anniversary dinner — $176.55 expense paid in December 1956 not included in above figure

** Insurance — includes 3-year policy

APRIL MEETING

The 486th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held, Thursday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m., in the Assembly Room of the Main Library in San Francisco, Larkin Street at McAllister.. Take No. 5 bus on Market Street.

"It's a Wild Life" is the exciting title of Mr. Philip Ferry's illustrated talk. It is a traveler's miscellany of random wildlife subjects photographed on five continents, culminating in two sightseeing safaris into equatorial Africa, with special emphasis on that continent's teeming wildlife. The slides will show lion, rhino, elephant, zebra and other major big game species. Mr. Ferry, a popular lecturer in the Sierra Club, is not unknown to Audubon members. He had an article in the Jan.-Feb. issue of 1957 Audubon Magazine. Guests are welcome. — BONNIE SMITH, *Program Chairman*

Note: A no-host dinner at the Whitcomb Hotel, 1251 Market St., near the library, will precede the meeting. Six p.m. Everyone welcome. Moderate prices.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SANCTUARY AND MEMORIAL FUND— T. Eric Reynolds, M.D., Harold A. Morse, M.D., Jefferson Larkey, M.D., Lovell Langstroth, Jr., M.D., Reginald Hanson, D.D.S., Helen Gillian, Dorothy Barry, Shirley Stephens, Mary Lou Dietz, Helen Tenhunen, Leilani Fisher, Lucy Kendrick, Miss Margaret J. Milwain.

TENTATIVE FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULE, MAY-DECEMBER, 1958

Sun., May 4 — Tomales Point—Owling
Sun., May 11 — Sacramento Valley
Fri., Sat., Sun., May 30, 31, June 1 — Southern California for Condors
Sun., June 15 — Stinson Beach & Mt. Tamalpais
Sat., June 28 — Lands End & Golden Gate Park
Sat., & Sun., July 12, 13 — High Sierras
Sat., July 26 — Strawberry Canyon
Sat., Aug. 16 — Rodeo Lagoon
Sat., Sun., Aug. 23, 24 — Audubon Camp Sugar Bowl
Sat., Sept. 13 — San Francisco Zoo & Merced Lake
Sun., Sept. 21 — Bay Farm Island
Sun., Oct. 12 — Tomales State Park
Sat., Oct. 25 — Knowland State Park, Oakland
Sun., Nov. 9 — Crystal Springs & Moss Beach
Sat., Sun., Nov. 15, 16 — Willows & Gridley
Sat., Nov. 22 — Orinda
Sun., Nov. 30 — Conn Lake
Dec. — Bird Census — Dates to be announced

— FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE
HAROLD G. PETERSON, *Chairman*

COMING EVENTS OF INTEREST TO AUDUBON MEMBERS:

Apr. 11—10 a.m.-12, Field Trip, Golden Gate Park, Florence Plymell, Leader. Meet at bandstand. Public transportation to point near bandstand.

Apr. 20—8:30 a.m., Wildflower Hike, Oakland Park Naturalist & Berkeley Hiking Club. Paul Covel, Leader. Meet at Carson St. & Mountain Blvd., end of #15 Bus line.

2:30 p.m., "A Salute to John Muir", Berkeley High Little Theatre. Part of Senior Citizens Program. Berkeley Recreation Dept., 1835 Allston Way, Berkeley. Phone: TH 1-0200..

Apr. 25—10 a.m., Field Trip, Golden Gate Park, Florence Plymell, Leader. Meet at bandstand. Public transportation to point near bandstand.

May 18—2:30 p.m., Film, "Spring Gardens and Birding Adventures", Berkeley High Little Theatre, Laurel Reynolds.

FIELD TRIPS IN APRIL

On Sunday, April 13, to the Farallon Islands on the Privater 11. See full announcement in the March Gull. Fare is $8.00. Send reservations to Harold Peterson. Last year this trip netted such thrills as Black-footed Albatross, California Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbler Murrelet, Cassin's Auklet, Rhinoceros Auklet and Tufted Puffin.

On Saturday, April 19, to Bay Farm Island. Shorebirds in their spring plumage should be abundant. The spring migration is usually at its height during this week. Meet at 11 a.m., at High Street and Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. Frontage road area will be studied first and then the pools on Doolittle Drive. Mecartney Road and the sunken ships area will be covered last. This area is best at high tide which will be 1 p.m. Leader, Arleen Pierson, JU 7-4163.

On Sunday, April 27, to McCoy Ranch, Arroyo Mocho, S.E. of Livermore. Few places so close in can equal the pastoral beauty of this foothill canyon in the springtime. Orioles, Phainopepla, Western Kingbird, Yellow-billed Magpie and many other interesting birds are usually seen. Meet in Livermore one block down South Livermore Avenue beyond the flagpole, at 9:30 a.m. Allow one hour driving time from Oakland. Leader, Mrs. Beth C. Snyder, TH 1-1747.

— HAROLD G. PETERSON, *Field Trip Chairman*

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

A Branch of the National Audubon Society since.. 1948

President	Paul F. Covel	2860 Delaware Street, Oakland 2,	KE 6-4120
Vice President	Howard L. Cogswell	Box 9486, Mills College, Oakland 13,	NE 6-1573
Vice President and Membership Chairman	Mrs. Roberta J. Long	45 Clarendon Avenue, San Francisco 14,	LO 4-7767
Treasurer	Miss Margaret J. Milwain	6926 Sayre Drive, Oakland 11,	OL 8-4656
Recording Secretary	Miss Patricia Triggs	230 Arch St., San Francisco,	DE 3-5592
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Director	A. D. Williams	73 Hazelwood, San Francisco,	JU 7-5934
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Director	Carl Fox	616 The Alameda, Berkeley,	LA 5-7000
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Field Trips Chairman	Harold Peterson	3548 - 65th Ave., Oakland 5,	LO 8-7534
Program Chairman	Mrs. Bonnie Smith	555 Dewey Blvd., San Francisco 16,	OV 1-7635

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, $5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately, $1.00 per year.

Visit the Pacific Coast Office of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY — 2426 Bancroft Way Berkeley 4, California — TH 8-4042